

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ACDA-05 CEQ-01 CIAE-00 DOTE-00 EPA-01

HEW-02 HUD-01 INR-05 INT-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG SENV NATO UK NO

SUBJ: CCMS: POLLUTION CONTROL IN OFFSHORE DRILLING

REF: (A) LONDON 15009 (B) STATE 251284

1. INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS DIVISION CHEIF HAAKON HJELDE INFORMED EMBOFF THAT NORWEGIANS ARE PLANNING MEET WITH UK OFFICIALS TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE STEPS THEY MIGHT TAKE INDIVIDUALLY OR JOINTLY TO PROTECT NORTH SEA FROM OIL POLLUTION FROM OFFSHORE DRILLING FACILITIES. MEETING WILL LIKELY BE HELD IN JANUARY, AND WILL BE A STRICTLY BILATERAL MEASURE DESIGNED TO FOLLOW-UP SUGGESTIONS MADE DURING VISIT OF NORWEGIAN ENVIRONMENT MINISTER TO LONDON LAST SUMMER. NORWEGIANS SEE MEETING AS AN EXPLORATORY ONE. THEY HOPE IT WILL LEAD TO CONTINUING DISCUSSIONS AND CONSULTATIONS ON NORTH SEA OIL POLLUTION MATTERS.

2. NORWEGIANS WANT TO OPEN GENERAL DISCUSSIONS ON NORTH SEA POLLUTION PROBLEM AND LEARN WHAT MEASURES
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UK IS TAKING TO PREVENT AND CLEAN-UP OIL SPILLS, AND

WHAT POLLUTION CRITERIA AND STANDARDS ARE BEING
USED TO SEE IF HARMONIZATION IS POSSIBLE. THEY
ALSO WANT TO LOOK INTO MONITORING PROCEDURES AND RE-
VIEW LEGISLATION WITH VIEW GENERALLY OF LEARNING FACTS OF
SITUATION AND MAKING BOTH SIDES COMPATIBLE WHERE POSSIBLE.
OIL SPILL CONTINGENCY PLANNING MAY COME UP; NOR-
WEGIANS HAVE COPY OF US-CANADIAN JOINT CONTINGENCY
PLAN.

3. NORWEGIAN GROUP LIKELY TO BE HEADED BY ERIK LYKKE,
ENVIRONMENT MINISTRY DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR ORGANIZATION
AND INFORMATION, WHO PLAYED IMPORTANT ROLE AT RECENT
OECD MINISTERIAL MEETING, AND WILL INCLUDE HJELDE
AND TECHNICAL EXPERTS FROM THE ENVIRONMENT AND
INDUSTRY MINISTRIES AND OIL DIRECTORATE.
BYRNE

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Message Attributes

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